

ABSTRACT

The mesozooplankton (200 μm to 2 mm) community from monthly samples collected at two stations in Ría de Vigo (39 m) and its adjacent shelf (97 m) between 1995-2003 is described. The mesozooplankton was dominated by copepods. Inside the Ría, meroplankton (larvae of gastropods, lamellibranchia, echinodermata and cirripids nauplii) and other holoplanktonic organisms, such as appendicularia, cladocera, siphonophora and medusae, were also well represented. The copepod group inside the Ría was dominated by *Acartia clausi*, juveniles of *Calanus helgolandicus*, *Paracalanus parvus*, *Pseudocalanus elongatus*, *Temora longicornis*, *Oithona plumifera*, *Oncaea media*, *Euterpina acutifrons* and copepodites of *Centropages* spp. In the offshore station, dominant copepods species were the same than inshore together with other oceanic species, such as *Paraeuchaeta hebes*, *Calanoides carinatus* and *Aetideus armatus*. Biomass values within Ría de Vigo ranged between 2 and 151 mg dry weight m^{-3} and between 2 and 314 mg dry weight m^{-3} in the offshore station. Abundance ranged between 149 ind/m³ in January 1995 and 41814 ind/m³ in August of 2003 in the inner station, and between 22 ind/m³ in January 1996 and 93410 ind/m³ in May 1999 in the outer station. The most outstanding events were the high levels of the Mediterranean copepod *Temora stylifera*, usually rare in Galician waters recorded in the area in 1997 and 1998, and the increased levels of cirripid larvae observed inside the Ría.

MATERIAL AND METHODS



CTD



plankton net

Oblique tows with flow meter and depth meter. The nets are made of mesh 200 μm and one use to biomass and other to community structure.

Sensor of temperature, salinity, depth, pH, oxygen concentration, fluorescence.

Mesozooplankton from Ría de Vigo (NW Spain) and its adjacent shelf between 1995 and 2003

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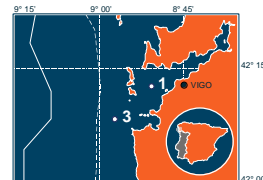
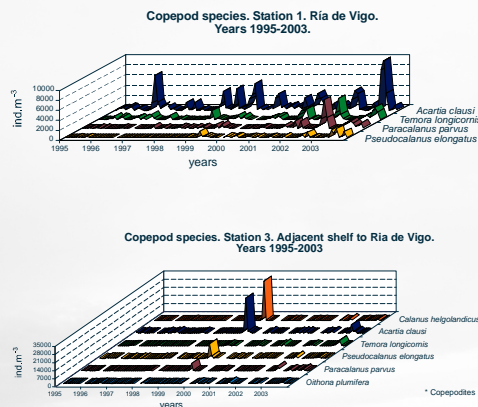
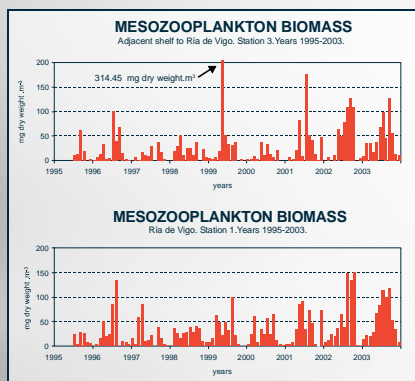
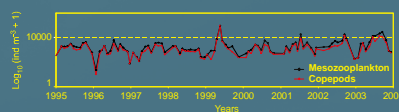


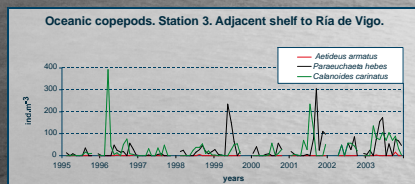
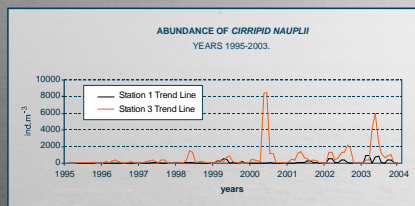
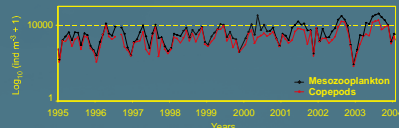
Fig. 1.- Situation of stations in Ría de Vigo and adjacent shelf.



TOTAL ABUNDANCE OF MESOZOOPLANKTON AND COPEPODS ADJACENT SHELF TO RÍA DE VIGO, STATION 3, YEARS 1995-2003



TOTAL ABUNDANCE OF MESOZOOPLANKTON AND COPEPODS RÍA DE VIGO, STATION 1, YEARS 1995-2003



		STATION 3										
		1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003		
MESOZOOPLANKTON GROUPS	COPEPODA	20.1	74.2	75.2	73.7	74.7	72.9	70.2	66.7	65.8		
	MEDUSAE	0.9	0.2	0.1	0.1	1.3	0.8	1.6	1.1	0.8		
	CLADOCERA	1.9	0.6	3.1	0.8	2.4	0.3	3.1	4.3	1.6		
	EUPHAUSIACEA	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.1	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.2		
	CHARACINIDAE	0.7	0.6	0.1	1.1	1.8	0.1	1.0	0.9	0.6		
	APPENDICULATA	4.3	8.4	4.6	6.7	3.0	4.4	3.5	6.2	2.9		
	SIPHONOPHORA	4.6	3.7	4.9	2.9	2.9	3.1	2.7	3.2	2.9		
	LAMELIBRANCHIA LARVAE	1.3	0.7	0.4	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.7	1.3	4.3		
	CIRRIPIEDIA NAUPLII	0.4	0.5	1.3	4.4	6.2	1.5	1.5	6.5	8.5		
	EUPHAUSIACEA LARVAE	1.1	2.7	2.2	1.3	2.1	2.8	1.9	1.6	1.6		
	ECHINODERMATA LARVAE	0.6	3.3	3.4	0.5	1.0	3.2	3.3	1.2	2.9		
		STATION 1										
		1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003		
MESOZOOPLANKTON GROUPS	COPEPODA	66.4	58.0	57.8	63.8	71.0	55.7	59.8	59.5	51.1		
	RADIOLARIA	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
	TINTINNIDA	1.4	0.2	2.4	0.3	0.7	4.1	0.1	0.0	0.0		
	MEDUSAE	0.4	1.9	2.0	1.5	1.6	1.4	1.5	1.2	2.1		
	CLADOCERA	7.8	2.5	9.7	3.4	3.4	4.3	10.8	4.5	3.0		
	APPENDICULATA	7.4	16.2	9.2	8.6	7.8	11.2	8.4	6.3	11.9		
	SIPHONOPHORA	3.9	3.6	4.5	4.0	2.2	1.9	4.5	3.2	2.6		
	GASTROPOD LARVAE	1.2	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	1.1	0.4	1.1	1.7		
	LAMELIBRANCHIA LARVAE	2.6	1.2	0.2	0.6	0.7	0.9	0.6	2.3	3.2		
	CIRRIPIEDIA NAUPLII	1.7	6.4	4.4	7.8	4.7	10.3	8.5	12.4	11.7		
	ECHINODERMATA LARVAE	2.1	1.6	3.5	3.2	2.9	4.0	1.9	3.3	3.3		

